

Enclosure 3

Comments on Draft Safety Evaluation for WCAP-18461

(Non-Proprietary)

September 2020

OFFICIAL USE ONLY – PROPRIETARY INFORMATIONSAFETY EVALUATION OF WCAP-18461-P/NP COMMON Q PLATFORM AND COMPONENTINTERFACE MODULE SYSTEM ELIMINATION OF TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONSURVEILLANCE REQUIREMENTSBY THE OFFICE OF NUCLEAR REACTOR REGULATION1.0 INTRODUCTION

By letter dated March 9, 2020 (Agencywide Documents Access and Management System (ADAMS) Accession No. ML20070R087), Westinghouse Electric Company (Westinghouse) submitted for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) staff review WCAP-18461-P and WCAP-18461-NP, "Common Q Platform and Component Interface Module System Elimination of Technical Specification Surveillance Requirements" (Ref. 1). The stated purpose of this topical report (TR) is to eliminate technical specification (TS) surveillance requirements (SRs) related to the Common Q Platform and the Component Interface Module (CIM) and Safety Remote Node Controller (SRNC) System. The scope of WCAP-18461-P/NP is limited to TS SRs that would apply to an instrumentation and control (I&C) safety system using the Common Q Platform and the CIM/SRNC system. Westinghouse subsequently provided supplemental information related to WCAP-18461-P/NP to support the NRC's safety evaluation (SE) (Ref. 8).

2.0 REGULATORY EVALUATION

The NRC staff considered the following regulatory requirements and guidance in reviewing the concepts presented in WCAP-18461-P/NP:

- Title 10 of the Code of Federal Regulations (10 CFR) 50.36, TS impose limits, operating conditions, and other requirements upon reactor facility operation for the public health and safety. Section 50.36(c)(3) states that "[s]urveillance requirements are requirements relating to test, calibration, or inspection to assure that the necessary quality of systems and components is maintained, that facility operation will be within safety limits, and that the limiting conditions for operation will be met."
- 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B, "Quality Assurance Criteria for Nuclear Power Plants and Fuel Reprocessing Plants," requires, in part, that licensees apply a quality assurance (QA) program to the design, fabrication, construction, and testing of structures, systems, and components of the facility.

The following are the NRC technical requirements applicable to WCAP-18461-P/NP:

- General Design Criteria (GDC) 21, "Protection System Reliability and Testability," requires, in part, that the protection system be designed to permit its periodic testing during reactor operation, including a capability to test channels independently to determine failures and losses of redundancy that may have occurred.

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- 2 -

- 1 • 10 CFR 50.55a(h), “Protection and Safety Systems” incorporates the 1991 version
2 of IEEE Std. 603, “IEEE Standard Criteria for Safety Systems for Nuclear Power
3 Generating Stations,” by reference, including the correction sheet dated January
4 30, 1995.
5
- 6 • IEEE 603, Clause 5.7, “Capability for Test and Calibration” of IEEE Std 603-1991
7 states, in part, that the capability for testing and calibration of safety system
8 equipment shall be provided during power operation and shall duplicate, as closely
9 as practicable, performance of the safety function.
10
- 11 • IEEE 603, Clause 6.5, “Capability for Testing and Calibration,” states, in part, that
12 means shall be provided for checking, with a high degree of confidence, the
13 operational availability of each sense and command feature input sensor required
14 for a safety function during reactor operation.
15
- 16 • IEEE 603, Clause 4.10.2, in part, requires that the critical points in time after the
17 onset of a design basis event are “defined for completion of the safety function.”
18

19 The following are the specific NRC guidance documents applicable to WCAP-18461-P/NP:
20

- 21 • NUREG-0800, Standard Review Plan (SRP), Branch Technical Position (BTP) 7-17,
22 “Guidance on Self-Test and Surveillance Test Provisions.” WCAP-18461-P/NP
23 addresses the acceptance criteria in BTP 7-17, which in part states that self-test
24 functions should be verified during periodic functional tests.
25
- 26 • NUREG-1431, “Standard Technical Specifications, Westinghouse Plants.”
27
- 28 • NUREG-1432, “Standard Technical Specifications, Combustion Engineering Plants.”
29

30 3.0 TECHNICAL EVALUATION 31

32 The NRC staff reviewed the TR to verify that the Common ~~Qualification-Qualified~~ (Common Q)
33 ~~platform~~ self-diagnostics provide a level of confidence in channel operability that is equivalent to
34 manual SRs typically required in TSs to demonstrate the operability of a channel in an I&C
35 safety system (also referred to as channel operability tests). The NRC staff also evaluated the
36 proposal for reasonable assurance that the operability of the system self-diagnostics is
37 maintained and periodically verified, and that appropriate conditions for site specific use are
38 identified in the TR. The NRC acceptance of this TR serves as a generic basis for site-specific
39 license application requests (LARs) to remove channel operability test requirements.
40

41 Standard TS (STS) mark-ups were included in the TR to provide an example of how
42 surveillance tests could be eliminated with supporting justification in the TR. These TS changes
43 are however not proposed changes to the STSs and the NRC staff is not accepting the specific
44 mark-ups as allowable TS for licensee’s referencing this TR. Each licensee will need to perform
45 a site-specific evaluation of both its licensing basis and site-specific TS, and can propose
46 changes using, in part, the generic technical basis in the TR crediting self-diagnostics and
47 considering the generalized TS examples in the TR to the extent applicable.
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- 3 -

3.1. Overview of the Common Q Process Protection System Base Architecture

Common Q digital equipment and application software are used to implement functions for I&C safety systems. A base architecture is described in Section 2.1 of the TR. This base architecture provides a basis for equipment analyzed for SR elimination within the TR and within this SE. WCAP-18461 includes a licensee required action (LRA) in the TR that addresses site or application specific deviations from the base architecture. This is LRA 1.

The base architecture is a **process-plant** protection system (PPS) that is similar to the protection and safety monitoring system (PMS) used for Vogtle Nuclear Power Plant, Units 3 and 4, to perform reactor trip (RT), engineered safety features actuation system (ESFAS), nuclear instrumentation (NI), diesel load sequencer (DLS), and post accident monitoring system (PAMS) functions. The PPS base architecture system is provided as Figure 2.1-1 of the TR. In addition, the TR base architecture includes provisions for a core protection calculator system to be used in Combustion Engineering plant designs.

The PPS base architecture is an integrated system which includes interfaces between the major functional components of the system. The PPS base architecture contains four divisions of process protection and two trains of RT and ESFAS logic and actuation. This base architecture establishes allocation of safety functions to components of the PPS as follows:

Function	PPS Components to which Functions are Allocated
Reactor Trip	Bistable Processing Logic Local Coincidence Logic
Engineered Safety Features Actuation System	Bistable Processing Logic Local Coincidence Logic Integrated Logic Processor Component Interface Module
Nuclear Instrumentation	Inputs provided to the Bistable Processing Logic Component
Post-Accident Monitoring System	Redundant PAMS Racks
Diesel Load Sequencer	Integrated Logic Processor Integrated into the Architecture
Core Protection Calculator	Described as an independent system with interfaces to the RTS in Appendix A of the Topical Report

3.2. Description of PPS Self-Diagnostic Functions

Sections 4 and 5 of WCAP-18461 describe self-diagnostic functions associated with a Common Q based PPS. There are three types of self-diagnostics that are used to detect faults in a Common Q PPS: 1) Common Q Platform Self-Diagnostics, 2) CIM/SRNC Self-Diagnostics, and 3) Application Self-Diagnostics.

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- 4 -

1 3.2.1. PPS Common Q Platform Self-Diagnostic Functions
2

3 There are several self-diagnostic functions designed into the Common Q Platform. Any system
4 design using Common Q Platform equipment will inherit these functions so even architectures
5 that differ from the base architecture described in the TR will include these functions. These
6 self-diagnostic functions are listed below and are described in the following sub-sections.
7

- 8 ○ ~~AC160 Self-Diagnostics~~
- 9 ○ Watchdog Timer Functions
- 10 ○ Memory Checking Functions
- 11 ○ High Speed Link Self-Diagnostics
- 12 ○ AF100 Bus Self Diagnostics
- 13 ○ Input / Output Module and Communications Interface Module Self-Diagnostics
14

15 3.2.1.1. AC160 Self-Diagnostics
16

17 The AC160 performs diagnostic and supervisory functions to continuously monitor the system
18 for correct operation. Diagnostic functions monitor system operation and report any faults
19 detected. Supervisory functions provide means of detecting and reporting system faults that
20 affect the self-diagnostic capabilities of the system. Each type of AC160 module also has its
21 own diagnostic functions. The AC160 monitors the system by collecting diagnostic information
22 and checking the consistency of hardware configuration and application software.
23

24 Section 4 of WCAP-18461 describes three types of automatic self-test functions used to detect
25 faults in the PPS. These self-diagnostic types are:
26

- 27 1. AC160 Platform Self-Diagnostics – These include AC160 module self-diagnostics, which
28 are provided with the AC160 as part of the previously developed software and serve to
29 verify the proper operation of the AC160 system. The collection and presenting of
30 diagnostic information to the plant staff is determined at application design time. AC160
31 Platform Self-diagnostic functions are implemented by the Common Q equipment
32 manufacturer.
33
- 34 2. CIM/SRNC Self-Diagnostics – CIM/SRNC self-diagnostics are implemented in hardware
35 and firmware design by Westinghouse.
36
- 37 3. Common Q Application Self-diagnostics - Application automatic self-testing that tests the
38 proper functioning of the Common Q plant specific applications. Application self-
39 diagnostics are developed in conjunction with plant specific safety application software.
40

41 Common Q self-diagnostic functions described in this section (3.2.1.1) are designed to run
42 continuously as background operations. There are also automatic self-tests that run only when
43 starting the system. Further details of AC160 self-diagnostics are provided in Section 4.1.1.3 of
44 the Common Q TR (Ref. 2).
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- 5 -

1 3.2.1.2. Watchdog Timer Functions
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3 A Common Q processor module is composed of two internal sections, a processing section and
4 a communications section. Each of these sections contains a microprocessor and both
5 microprocessors have an associated Window Watchdog Timer (WWDT). Each WWDT is a
6 precision timing device that must be triggered within a defined window of time. If the WWDT is
7 triggered earlier or later than this time window, then the timer output changes state. When a
8 change of state occurs on either of the WWDTs, the ~~Watchdog Timer (WDT)~~WWDT relay
9 whose contacts are accessible from the processor front panel changes state.

10
11 Depending on the specific system application, the ~~WDT-WWDT~~ relay can be used to annunciate
12 a failure, actuate a divisional trip, or set output states to predefined conditions. ~~Appendix A of~~
13 ~~†~~The Common Q TR, WCAP-16097, Revision 5 (ADAMS Package Accession
14 No. ML20171A339) provides additional information on the WDT configuration. Additional WDTs
15 are associated with the processing section of the Common Q processor module (PM646A)
16 known as stall timers. [

]a,c

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19 3.2.1.3. Memory Check Functions
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21 Memory check functions are performed both during system startup and continuously during
22 operation as follows:

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24 [25
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29]a,c

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31 The system also performs a Random-Access Memory (RAM) test. [[

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36 Once the system is running, the following memory check functions are continuously performed.

- 37
38 a) Domain CRC check - The CRC checksums of all read-only domains in RAM are
39 verified.
40
41 b) Test of system and user FEPROM. This test checks the CRC checksum of:
- 42 • The system software in the system FEPROM
 - 43 • The application in the user FEPROM

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3.2.1.4. High Speed Link Self-Diagnostics

High Speed Link (HSL) diagnostics are executed to detect physical layer failures and failures of the communication link to another PM646A processor module. The physical layer of the high level data link control (HDLC) protocol is secured through a CRC. []

[] All detected errors are reported to the application program. An application program is a plant specific program that is developed to perform the safety functions of the system.

3.2.1.5. AF100 Bus Self-Diagnostics

The AF100 uses bus mastership to continuously monitor the status of the nodes on the bus. The AF100 communication interface, CI631, monitors the validity of received data sets. If no data has been received for four cycles or if the communication interface has failed, the database element for the data set will be flagged as failed. The control module programming monitors the database element flag and performs error processing.

3.2.1.6. Input / Output Module and Communications Interface Module Self-Diagnostics

Diagnostics of the input / output (I/O) and communication interface modules are executed by interrogating all modules for errors. The I/O modules diagnostics are reported to the processor module base software diagnostics routine via a device status word.

3.2.2. Component Interface Module and SRNC Self-Diagnostics

The Westinghouse designed CIM system, consisting of the CIM, SRNC, and double and single width transition panel (DWTP/SWTP), is used to provide device control interface for direct current (DC)-powered components. A modified version of the current CIM design with different solid-state relays capable of handling the alternating current (AC) loads will need to be used if actuation of AC powered components is required. This modified version of the existing CIM design is still under development, which is covered by application specific action items (ASAI) 1. The SRNC provides a data link or bridge between the AC160 controller and the CIM. The DWTP and SWTP components, which are located between the SRNC and CIM, are used to pass communication signals among the SRNC, CIM, and the non-safety-related plant control system through the remote node controller (RNC).

The field programmable gate array (FPGA)-based CIM subsystem uses a series of self-

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1 diagnostic functions to detect faults within the CIM subsystem of the PPS.]

2
3]^{a,c} Detailed descriptions for each of these CIM
4 self-diagnostic functions is provided in Sections 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 of WCAP-18461. The CIM is
5 also designed to receive commands from non-safety-related systems, therefore, self-diagnostic
6 of the non-safety signal path is provided to detect failures of non-safety related logic. [
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41 The above CIM/SRNC self-diagnostic functions are designed to detect communication
42 problems, internal faults, and power supply issues, [
43]^{a,c} and therefore can be credited for establishing and
44 assuring operability of the CIM/SRNC subsystem of the PPS.

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- 8 -

1 3.2.3. PPS Application-Specific Self-Diagnostics
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3 The base PPS architecture is designed with application-specific, self-diagnostic functions as
4 described in Section 5.3 of WCAP-18461. Application-specific alarms and annunciation
5 functions are designed to periodically transmit the self-diagnostic information for the PPS
6 components and application software to [

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8]a,c

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10 Although application self-diagnostics are plant specific and no specific application was provided
11 to the NRC to support this evaluation, the TR includes descriptions of the following application-
12 specific, self-diagnostic functions that are expected to be implemented in the base PPS
13 architecture design.

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19 Other application-specific self-diagnostic functions cannot be generically evaluated or approved
20 as a basis for SR elimination. Therefore, a licensee referencing this TR should identify
21 application-specific self-diagnostic functions to be credited for SR elimination and perform an
22 analysis to determine if these diagnostic functions satisfy applicable operability verification
23 criteria. This analysis is required to be performed for all plant specific self-diagnostic functions
24 to be credited for eliminating SRs that are not described in WCAP-18461, See ASAI-3.

25
26 3.3. Evaluation of Standard TS Surveillance Requirements
27

28 STS, Sections 3.1 and 3.3 of NUREG 1431, provide SRs and limiting conditions for operation
29 (LCO) for the safety functions performed by the base architecture PPS as described in the TR.

30
31 The expected PPS configuration is to maintain operability of all processor redundancies in each
32 division. This means ensuring that applicable SRs will continue to be met in each PPS division.
33 Consistent with this expectation, the PPS self-diagnostic functions automatically and
34 continuously monitor the proper operation of the PPS digital components, including each
35 redundant subsystem, and provide assurance of PPS operability. The SRs currently specified
36 in NUREG-1431, Section 1.1, implement the following defined tests for the listed subsystems,
37 for which the TR proposes crediting PPS self-diagnostics for assuring system and subsystem
38 operability:

- 39
- 40 ● CHANNEL CHECK - A CHANNEL CHECK shall be the qualitative
41 assessment by observation, of channel behavior during operation. This
42 determination shall include, where possible, comparison of the channel
43 indication and status to other indications or status derived from independent
44 instrument channels measuring the same parameter.
45
 - 46 ● CHANNEL OPERATIONAL TEST (COT) - A COT shall be the injection of a
47 simulated or actual signal TEST (COT) into the channel as close to the
48 sensor as practicable to verify OPERABILITY of all devices in the channel
49 required for channel OPERABILITY. The COT shall include adjustments, as
50 necessary, of the required alarm, interlock, and trip setpoints required for

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- 9 -

1 channel OPERABILITY such that the setpoints are within the necessary
2 range and accuracy. The COT may be performed by means of any series of
3 sequential, overlapping, or total channel steps.

- 4
- 5 ● CHANNEL CALIBRATION - A CHANNEL CALIBRATION shall be the
6 adjustment, as necessary, of the channel output such that it responds within
7 the necessary range and accuracy to known values of the parameter that
8 the channel monitors. The CHANNEL CALIBRATION shall encompass all
9 devices in the channel required for channel OPERABILITY. Calibration of
10 instrument channels with resistance temperature detector (RTD) or
11 thermocouple sensors may consist of an in place qualitative assessment of
12 sensor behavior and normal calibration of the remaining adjustable devices
13 in the channel. The CHANNEL CALIBRATION may be performed by means of
14 any series of sequential, overlapping, or total channel steps.

15

16 Note: WCAP-18461-P/NP provides a revision to the definition of CHANNEL
17 CALIBRATION. Instead of stating: "The CHANNEL CALIBRATION shall
18 encompass all devices in the channel required for channel OPERABILITY."
19 The revised definition states the following: "The CHANNEL CALIBRATION
20 shall encompass all devices in the instrument channel from the sensor to
21 the analog-to-digital converter."

- 22
- 23 ● ACTUATION LOGIC TEST (ALT) - An ALT shall be the application of various
24 simulated or actual input combinations in conjunction with each possible
25 interlock logic state required for OPERABILITY of a logic circuit and the
26 verification of the required logic output. The ALT, as a minimum, shall
27 include a continuity check of output devices.

28

29 I&C safety system LCO operability requirements are unchanged by implementation of this TR.
30 However, the TR presents a case for removing certain I&C safety system SRs currently
31 specified to assure the LCOs are met. The basis for elimination of these SRs is that self-
32 diagnostic functions can provide equal or greater assurance that LCOs are met.

33

34 Section 3.3.2 of this SE describes and evaluates changes to the STS surveillance test
35 requirements to verify that system operability can be reasonably maintained during PPS system
36 operation when the WCAP-18461 surveillance elimination methods are applied.

37

38 3.3.1. Use of PPS Base Architecture Self-Diagnostic Functions to Verify Operability

39

40 The primary objective of periodically conducting SRs on PPS components is to assure their
41 operability. The NRC staff's evaluation of the proposed elimination of SR requirements involves
42 verifying that: 1) the PPS self-diagnostic functions being credited can adequately demonstrate
43 operability of all components covered by the SRs; 2) the PPS self-diagnostic functions execute
44 deterministically and all detected faults actuate system alarms; and 3) quality of the built-in PPS
45 self-diagnostic functions is sufficient to support compliance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B
46 QA requirements. Acceptability of the proposed methodology for using allocated response
47 times for the PPS system to meet the SRs for the overall response time tests (RTTs) is also
48 evaluated below.

49

50 All PPS Common- Q modules contain built-in self-diagnostic functions. These self-diagnostic

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- 10 -

1 functions, as described in Section 3.2 of this SE, continuously monitor logic operability and alert
2 the operator of Common Q equipment failure. The PPS Common- Q processor modules
3 monitor the system by collecting diagnostic information from other Common Q modules and
4 checking the consistency of the hardware configuration with the application software installed.
5 The functions of the Common Q processors are monitored by system self-diagnostics both
6 during system power-up and normal operations.
7

8 Section 7 of WCAP-18461 describes a method for determining if TS SRs can be eliminated.
9 This method involves: 1) identifying system components that are tested by the manual SR
10 tests, 2) Identifying failure modes for those components, 3) mapping diagnostic functions to the
11 failure modes identified, and 4) evaluating if system self-diagnostic functions provide an
12 adequate means of identifying and responding to postulated component failures. This method
13 provides a means of establishing failure mode coverage by self-diagnostics that is equal or
14 greater than the failure mode coverage provided by performing manual surveillance testing.
15

16 While the FMEDA analysis is used to support elimination of TS SRs, the method described in
17 Section 7 of WCAP-18461 identifies which Common Q (or CIM system) components are
18 included in the scope of specific SRs. Therefore, if FMEDA tables determine that system
19 components do not have full diagnostic coverage, then a WCAP-18461 based analyses will
20 determine if SRs that include these components within their scope will need to be retained.
21 WCAP-18461 includes LRA 2 which states: *“The licensee will have to compare the plant-
22 specific application [failure modes and effects analysis] FMEA with the failure modes identified
23 in the FMEDA tables within this analysis. This should be done to conclude that the FMEA herein
24 is bounded by the plant-specific application FMEA.”* Therefore, a licensee referencing
25 WCAP-18461 will need to perform a plant specific FMEA to support its analysis of test coverage
26 by system self-diagnostics.
27

28 The following subsections describe the NRC staff evaluations of each of the SRs proposed to
29 be eliminated in the TS mark-ups provided in Appendix D of WCAP-18461. The NRC staff is
30 not approving the specific TS mark-ups for incorporation by licensee. Instead, the NRC
31 reviewed the Westinghouse application of the method described above to establish a basis for
32 approval of these methods for the typical TS associated with ensuring PPS system and
33 subsystem operability. These evaluation conclusions support the NRC staff's acceptance of
34 WCAP-18461 methods for reference as a basis for eliminating plant SRs from plant TSs.
35

36 3.3.1.1. Evaluation of Removing Channel Check SR for PPS Components
37

38 The TS mark-up in WCAP-18461 eliminates channel check surveillance tests for PPS by
39 crediting PPS self-diagnostics that are designed to perform automatic continuous channel check
40 functions. The current channel check surveillance tests for the PPS defined in the STS require
41 manually comparing PPS instrumentation function channels in the four PPS divisions (inter-
42 channel check) to determine if there is a significant deviation that may indicate an instrument
43 failure. Channel checks performed for Combustion Engineering plants have a similar definition
44 and the same principles for evaluating elimination of channel check SRs apply.

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- 11 -

1 The PPS application-level self-diagnostic functions, which are credited to perform the channel
2 check function, include [REDACTED]

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8 [REDACTED] a,c

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10 The NRC staff determined that the PPS application-specific [REDACTED]
11 [REDACTED] a,c as described in Section 3.2.3 of this SE and in Sections 2.1.9 and 5.3.1 of
12 WCAP-18461, verifies the same information as the manual channel checks performed in
13 accordance with the current STS SRs. The NRC staff finds that the [REDACTED]
14 [REDACTED] a,c is an acceptable alternative to the manual channel check.

15 Therefore, in cases where [REDACTED]

16
17 [REDACTED] a,c requirements for performing periodic manual channel check surveillance tests
18 can be eliminated.

19
20 3.3.1.2. Evaluation of Removing Manual Channel Operational Test or Channel Functional
21 Test SRs for PMS-PPS Components

22
23 The mark-up of WCAP-18461 eliminates COTs for PPS by crediting PPS self-diagnostics that
24 are designed to continuously verify operability of PPS components. The COTs include
25 verification of the required alarm, interlock, and trip setpoints, such that the setpoints are within
26 the required tolerance.

27
28 Verification of operability is accomplished by detecting and annunciating faults that have
29 potential of affecting system safety functions. FMEDA tables provided in Section 6 of
30 WCAP-18461 identify self-diagnostic fault detection functions that can detect and provide
31 annunciation for postulated failure modes of the PPS.

32
33 For many of the postulated failures, [REDACTED]

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36
37 [REDACTED] a,c The NRC staff notes, these diverse features of the
38 Common Q diagnostic functions are not generally credited as part of a plant design or licensing
39 basis.

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- 12 -

1 These FMEDA tables are intended to show failure mode coverage by the system self-
2 diagnostics functions to justify elimination of the COT SRs. However, the FMEDA tables in
3 WCAP-18461 are not plant specific so they do not necessarily reflect all credible failure modes
4 that would otherwise be addressed by a plant's COT SRs. Additionally, application specific self-
5 diagnostic functions may not be reflected in these tables. To address these application specific
6 aspects of the FMEDA tables, Westinghouse has included LRA 2 in Appendix B of
7 WCAP-18461. This LRA states the following:

8
9 *The licensee will have to compare the plant-specific application FMEA with the*
10 *failure modes identified in the FMEDA tables within this analysis. This should be*
11 *done to conclude that the FMEA herein is bounded by the plant-specific*
12 *application FMEA.*

13
14 The NRC staff determined this LRA requires additional clarification of the specific reviews and
15 analysis need to provide reasonable assurance that the FMEA is bounded. When performing a
16 comparison of application FMEA with the FMEDA tables in WCAP-18461, the following actions
17 should be performed:

- 18
19 1. Identify any failure modes that are plant specific, (i.e., not identified in the WCAP-18461
20 FMEDA tables) and perform an analysis of system self-diagnostic features to determine if
21 each failure mode is detectable by an existing function or if a new plant application
22 diagnostic function is required.
- 23
24 2. Review all application self-diagnostic functions identified in the FMEA and FMEDA tables
25 and verify that each function is either included in the system design or is identified as a
26 system application requirement to be developed and implemented in the system design.
- 27
28 3. Identify any components or subsystems in the WCAP-18461 FMEDA tables that are not
29 being implemented in the plant design or are being implemented in the plant specific design
30 in a manner different than described in Section 2.1, "Base Architecture," of the
31 WCAP-18461.
- 32
33 4. Each of the functions performed by these components or sub-systems should then be
34 analyzed to determine the effects of any reduced diagnostic coverage.

35
36 The NRC staff determined the use of FMEDA tables in WCAP-18461 provides an acceptable
37 basis for COT surveillance elimination with the understanding that LRA 2 will be performed by a
38 licensee referencing this TR in the manner described in ASAI 4.

39
40 Application-level self-diagnostic functions, which are proposed to be credited to demonstrate
41 channel operability include []

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- 13 -

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]] A fault detected by the PPS diagnostic functions is designed to generate visual and audible annunciation in the MCR to alert the operator of detected PPS faults.

The NRC staff determined there are multiple platform and application-level self-diagnostic functions that are designed to detect faults associated with PPS failure modes identified in the FMEDA tables provided in WCAP-18461. To eliminate manual COT surveillance requirements, the PPS self-diagnostic functions, should be demonstrated to be capable of detecting all faults that would be detected during performance of manual COT. The NRC staff finds that the verification of operability of PPS components can be reasonably achieved with a combination of the PPS Common- Q based platform level and the PPS application-level self-diagnostic functions. Because not all application level self-diagnostics are evaluated as part of this SE, a plant specific action to evaluate application-level self-diagnostic functions that are to be credited for accomplishment of operability verification must be performed to support elimination of manual COT tests. This is ASAI 4.

3.3.1.3. Evaluation of Removing Manual ALT SR for PMS-PPS Components

The mark-up of the Westinghouse STS in WCAP-18461 credits PPS self-diagnostic functions that test system logic capability and accordingly removes requirements to perform manual ALT SRs for the PPS. Existing plant ALT surveillance tests include the application of various simulated or actual input combinations in conjunction with each possible interlock logic state required for operability of a logic circuit and the verification of the required logic output.

For the Common- Q PPS, components that are tested by performance of ALT SRs are the same PPS components as those credited for removal of COT SRs as described in Section 3.3.1.2 of this SE. The evaluation above shows that the self-diagnostic test functions of those PPS components could be credited and used to adequately verify the operability of the same PPS components, which would be manually tested under ALT SRs. In addition, the internal faults detected by the PPS self-diagnostic functions are designed to produce visual and audible annunciation in the MCR, so that the operators can take the appropriate actions according to plant operating procedures.

The scope of the PPS RTS components for the ALT also includes Common Q components for which the FMEDA does not identify diagnostic coverage. The ALT SRs for these PPS components are not fully covered by the PPS self-diagnostic functions. SRs for these PPS components should be retained.

For most PPS components that are tested by ALT SRs, the PPS self-diagnostic functions

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- 14 -

1 provide an adequate means of detecting faults that could otherwise be detected during
2 performance of manual ALT. For PPS components in which diagnostic coverage is not
3 provided, the associated SRs must either be retained, or new SRs should be created to ensure
4 safety function operability.

5
6 The NRC staff finds that self-diagnostic functions credited for PPS components can be used as
7 a basis for elimination of ALT SRs if diagnostic coverage of the ~~PMS-PPS~~ components which
8 would be tested under the existing ALT SRs can be demonstrated by the FMEDA and
9 application FMEA results. The NRC staff also finds that verification of operability for PPS
10 components can be reasonably achieved with a combination of the PPS Common-Q based
11 self-diagnostic functions and SRs.

12
13 3.3.1.4. Evaluation of Removing Manual Actuation Logic Output Test SRs for PPS
14 Components

15
16 WCAP-18461 does not propose elimination of actuation logic output test (ALOT) SRs. Instead,
17 it states the following:

18
19 *The actuation logic output test (ALOT) is not listed in NUREG-1431*
20 *(Reference 2) since these TS were based upon analog technology. However, if a*
21 *safety system were to upgrade to Common Q (as depicted by the PPS within this*
22 *topical report), there would need to be a surveillance test to cover the*
23 *Common Q equipment from the ILP to the CIM outputs.*

24
25 The NRC staff therefore did not evaluate elimination of ALOT SRs for the Base PPS system.
26 Although an ALOT SR is not included in the standard Westinghouse TS (NUREG-1431), it is
27 addressed within the TR to establish the scope of TS surveillances to be analyzed. The
28 licensee installing the PPS system should therefore evaluate the need to add ALOT SRs based
29 on the plant specific design characteristics and the ability of PPS self-diagnostics to identify
30 failure modes of PPS logic output components. The process for determining the need for ALOT
31 SRs is like the processes used for COT and ALT SR elimination described in WCAP-18461,
32 Appendix D.

33
34 3.3.1.5. Evaluation of Removing Time Response SR for PPS Components

35
36 Section 7.3.1 of WCAP-18461 provides a method for determining assumed time intervals for the
37 digital time response (allocated response times) of PPS equipment to process sensor input
38 signals using digital logic and generate an actuation signal to an actuated device. These
39 allocated time intervals can be used to conservatively bound the time intervals measured during
40 manual testing of PPS equipment. A licensee implementing these methods can use these
41 allocated response times instead of measured response times as part of determining the RTS
42 and ESF overall response times. The overall response times include measured response time
43 of the instrument sensor channel to provide an input signal to the PPS digital logic and the
44 measured response time for the actuated device to reposition to its safety position (e.g., the
45 closing of a valve, the opening of a breaker), as well as the PPS digital time response.

46
47 The NRC staff reviewed the analysis methodology in Section 7.3 of WCAP-18461 to determine
48 if it acceptably justifies the proposed use of allocated time intervals for PPS digital components.
49 The overall RTT SRs for verifying the reactor trip and ESFAS actuation response times include
50 response times of sensors, PPS instrumentation, and the actuating devices. The objective of

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- 15 -

1 these ~~TRs~~-SRs is to verify that reactor trip and ESFAS protective functions can be
2 accomplished within the times allocated in a plants' accident analysis.

3
4 The current definitions for the RTT in both NUREG-1431 and NUREG-1432 state: "In lieu of
5 measurement, response time may be verified for selected components provided that the
6 components and methodology for verification have been previously reviewed and approved by
7 the NRC." The NRC staff previously approved a similar methodology for elimination of periodic
8 protection channel RTTs for WEC 7100, 7300, Eagle 21, and solid-state protection system
9 platforms.

10
11 The methodology in WCAP-18461 modifies the approach for satisfying the PPS RTT SRs by
12 applying allocated response times for the PPS instrumentation, in lieu of performing manual
13 tests to support the overall RTTs required by the TS SRs. The methodology only applies to
14 PPS instrumentation components and does not change RTT requirements for sensors or
15 actuating devices. Allocated response times for the PPS for each of the RT and ESFAS
16 protective functions are to be obtained from PPS functional requirements.

17
18 Once established, the response time for components of the PPS normally do not change unless
19 a credible failure occurs that impacts its response time. The WCAP-18461 methodology shows
20 how the RTTs for the PPS components Reactor trip and ESFAS safety functional signal paths
21 could be replaced with allocated response times.

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]].

38 The NRC staff finds the methodology presented in WCAP-18461 Section 7.3.1 for elimination of
39 RTT SRs acceptable because it satisfies the applicable requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(h) as
40 articulated in Clause 4.10 IEEE Std. 603-1991. PPS component allocated response times can
41 therefore be used to support overall RTT SRs.

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- 16 -

1 3.3.1.6. Safety Conclusion for SR elimination
2

3 The NRC staff determined that Common Q self-diagnostic functions can provide an adequate
4 means of providing continuous confirmation of PPS system operability. Common Q self-
5 diagnostics functions can therefore be credited as an acceptable alternative to performing
6 periodic manual surveillance tests to ensure PPS system operability during plant operation. To
7 eliminate manual surveillance test requirements, an analysis of system failure modes must be
8 performed to confirm that system specific self-diagnostics failure detection capabilities provide
9 coverage for all failure modes that would otherwise be detected by the manual surveillance tests
10 to be eliminated.

11
12 Because no specific application was provided to support this TR evaluation, the NRC staff is
13 unable to make safety conclusions for functions that rely on application specific diagnostic
14 functions. Therefore, a licensee referencing this topical report must perform an evaluation of
15 application self-diagnostic functions to be credited for elimination of SRs to determine if these
16 functions provide adequate assurance of PPS component operability to support SR elimination.
17 This is ASAI 3.
18

19 3.3.2. PPS Base Architecture Self-Diagnostic Supervisory Functions
20

21 The Common-Q platform includes means of detecting and reporting system faults that affect
22 the self-diagnostic capabilities of the system. These means are hereby referred to as
23 self-diagnostic supervisory functions. WCAP-18461 describes two types of self-diagnostic
24 supervisory functions: 1) automatic functions that monitor performance of self-diagnostic
25 features, and 2) administrative actions taken by the licensee to assure that self-diagnostic
26 functions are operating.
27

28 3.3.2.1. Automatic Self-Diagnostic Supervisory Functions
29

30 There are confirmatory mechanisms in the Common-Q platform designed to verify that
31 self-diagnostic functions operate as designed. WCAP-18461 states that functionality of some
32 Common-Q hardware-based internal self-diagnostic functions is confirmed by [REDACTED]
33

34 [a,c]
35

36 Configuration and operability of the Common-Q self-diagnostic functions are [REDACTED]
37
38
39
40

41 [a,c]
42

43 The Common-Q processors also perform memory checking functions to confirm the integrity of
44 the system software, application software, and data stored in memory. A description of these
45 memory checking functions is provided in Section 3.2 of this SE and additional details of these
46 functions are provided in the Common Q Platform TR (Ref. 2).
47

48 A failure of a self-diagnostic function actuates a division fault alarm. Section 4.4 of
49 WCAP-18461 describes a division fault alarm that is the primary indication that there is a fault
50 within the PPS. An evaluation of a division fault alarm condition should be performed by plant

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- 17 -

1 operations and maintenance staff upon actuation. In the absence of a division fault alarm, the
 2 licensee will also perform activities including operator rounds and system health reviews that
 3 evaluate and document the health, errors, and faults of system.

4
 5 3.3.2.2. Administrative Action Supervisory Functions

6
 7 WCAP-18461 includes a licensee required action (LRA 8) that requires licensees to “... *provide*
 8 *a description of plant administrative controls that will provide assurance (defense-in-depth) that*
 9 *faults are captured and investigated. This may include items such as operator rounds and*
 10 *system engineer monthly reports that evaluate and document the health, errors, and faults of*
 11 *the safety system.*”

12
 13 These additional administrative controls are implemented to ensure the continued adequate
 14 functionality of the PPS system diagnostic functions during operations. Each of the four PPS
 15 divisions performs independent self-diagnostic functions and the PPS is designed such that
 16 execution of safety functions has higher priority than the self-diagnostic functions. In addition,
 17 even if one PPS division fails because of a self-diagnostic failure, the other three PPS divisions
 18 are designed to be available to perform the systems safety functions. Therefore, the NRC staff
 19 determined there is reasonable assurance that failure of a credited PPS self-diagnostic function
 20 will not prevent the PPS from performing its safety functions. The NRC staff agrees that
 21 automatic self-diagnostic supervisory functions as complemented by administrative actions
 22 invoked by LRA 8 provide confidence that automatic self-diagnostic functions are continuously
 23 monitoring system operability. The NRC staff has also determined that the administrative
 24 actions invoked by LRA 8 are needed to complement automatic supervisory functions to
 25 address potential supervisory function failures which may be otherwise undetectable.

26
 27 In addition to actuation of the division fault alarm, detected faults and system errors are logged
 28 in the PPS processor memory and can be retrieved and evaluated according to the plant
 29 operating procedures. Such records and their evaluations can also be used to identify and
 30 assess functionality of the self-diagnostics, detect adverse trends in the condition of the PPS
 31 and alert plant staff to take corrective actions when needed. The NRC staff determined that the
 32 PPS self-diagnostic functions can be used to continuously monitor operability of the **PMS-PPS**
 33 components covered by the referenced manual PPS-related SRs and alert the operator of
 34 detected failures.

35
 36 3.3.3. Deterministic Performance

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 38 [[

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 40
 41
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 44
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47
 48 Based on the above evaluation of the self-diagnostics testing performance, and the Common Q
 49 CPU loads being limited [[]], the NRC staff determined the Common-Q
 50 self-diagnostic functions execute deterministically and generate appropriate system responses

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- 18 -

1 to conditions resulting from a self-diagnostic function failing to execute or complete
2 satisfactorily.

3 3.3.4. Review of Westinghouse Standard Technical Specification Changes

4
5 Appendix D of WCAP-18461 includes a mark-up of NUREG-1431, the Westinghouse STS.
6 This appendix provides a framework for how to make TS changes using analysis techniques of
7 WCAP-18461. They are an example of how surveillance tests could be eliminated with
8 supporting justification. These TS changes are however not proposed changes to the STSs and
9 the NRC staff did not review the specific mark-ups as allowable TS for licensee's referencing
10 this TR. Below is a summary of these mark-ups.

11
12 NOTE: All numeric references to specific TSs and TS tables are to the NUREG-1431 STS.

- 13
14
- 15 • SRs requiring a manual Channel Check to be performed on Common Q components
16 are removed from the STS. This involves removing SRs 3.3.1.1, 3.3.2.1, 3.3.5.1,
17 3.3.6.1, 3.3.7.1, 3.3.8.1, 3.3.9.1, 3.4.15.1, and 3.9.3.1. Tables 3.3.1-1, 3.3.2-1,
18 3.3.6-1, 3.3.7-1, and 3.3.8-1 are revised to reflect removal of these channel check
19 SRs.
 - 20 • SRs requiring a manual Channel Operability Tests (COT) to be performed on
21 Common Q components are removed from the STS. This involves removing
22 SRs 3.1.8.1, 3.3.1.7, 3.3.1.8, 3.3.1.13, 3.3.2.5, 3.3.6.6, 3.3.7.2, 3.3.8.2, 3.3.9.2,
23 3.4.15.2, and 3.4.19.2. Tables 3.3.1-1, 3.3.2-1, 3.3.6-1, 3.3.7-1, and 3.3.8-1 are also
24 being revised to reflect removal of these COT SRs. In addition, TS
25 Subsection 5.5.19, Setpoint Program (SP), was modified to delete the reference to
26 the COT.
 - 27 • SRs requiring a manual Actuation Logic Test (ALT) to be performed on Common Q
28 components are removed from the STS. This involves removing SRs 3.3.1.5, 3.3.2.2,
29 3.3.2.3, 3.3.6.2, 3.3.6.4, 3.3.7.3, 3.3.7.5, 3.3.8.3, and 3.4.19.3. Tables 3.3.1-1,
30 3.3.2-1, 3.3.6-1, 3.3.7-1, and 3.3.8-1 are also being revised to reflect removal of
31 these ALT SRs.
 - 32 • SRs requiring a manual MASTER RELAY TEST to be performed on PPS
33 components are removed from the STS. This involves removing SRs 3.3.2.4,
34 3.3.6.3, 3.3.6.5, 3.3.7.4, and 3.3.7.6. Tables 3.3.2-1, 3.3.6-1, and 3.3.7-1 are also
35 being revised to reflect removal of these MASTER RELAY TEST SRs.
 - 36 • SRs requiring a manual SLAVE RELAY TEST to be performed on PPS components
37 are removed from the STS. This involves removing SRs 3.3.2.6, 3.3.6.7, and
38 3.3.7.7. Tables 3.3.2-1, 3.3.6-1, and 3.3.7-1 are also being revised to reflect removal
39 of these SLAVE RELAY TEST SRs.
- 40
41
42
43

44 The NRC staff examined the general process and example TS markups and agree that they
45 highlight the potential use of the TR to justify the example changes. Each licensee will need to
46 perform a site-specific evaluation of both its licensing basis and site-specific TS to demonstrate
47 compliance with 10 CFR 50.36. The licensee can use, in part, the generic technical basis in the
48 TR crediting self-diagnostics and considering the generalized TS examples in the TR to the
49 extent applicable.

50

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- 19 -

1 3.3.5. Review of Combustion Engineering Standard Technical Specification Changes
2

3 No mark-up of NUREG-1432, Combustion Engineering STS was provided in
4 WCAP-18461-P/NP. However, the process for making required changes to plant specific TSs is
5 provided in Appendix D.
6

7 3.4. Evaluation of PPS Self-Diagnostic Quality
8

9 The AC160 diagnostic functions are developed and commercially dedicated to the same quality
10 standards as the rest of the AC160 system software. The software design and lifecycle
11 processes applied to Common Q system software are also used for the Common-Q diagnostic
12 functions. These processes were previously accepted by the NRC as part of the Common Q
13 Platform TR evaluation (Ref. 2).
14

15 WCAP-18461 states that “Westinghouse has subjected this equipment to equipment
16 qualification testing and uses the same quality processes to commercially dedicate, assemble,
17 and test this equipment as the other PPS safety equipment at a given plant, since most of the
18 platform self-diagnostics are integral to the equipment that performs the safety functions.
19

20 During the Common Q Platform TR evaluation, the NRC staff reviewed the commercial
21 dedication activities performed by WEC to qualify the Common-Q platform components and
22 concluded that criteria set forth in BTP 7-14 and the guidance in EPRI TR-106439 were
23 followed. Section 4.2 of the Common Q Platform TR safety evaluation, “Evaluation of the
24 Commercial-Grade Dedication of the Common Q Platform,” provides an evaluation of the CGD
25 processes used by Westinghouse to certify Common Q Platform components and software for
26 use in nuclear power plant safety related applications and determined that these processes
27 were acceptable.
28

29 During the NRC evaluation of the Vogtle LAR 19-01 (Ref. 9), the NRC staff reviewed platform
30 modification processes and controls, and evaluated operational history of Common-Q based
31 systems that might impact the functionality of the Common-Q Platform. This evaluation
32 supplemented the previous NRC staff platform evaluation, which included an evaluation of the
33 CGD processes employed by Westinghouse, to confirm that the Common Q diagnostic
34 functions were suitably developed and tested and will be adequately maintained during the
35 operational phase of the development lifecycle.
36

37 The CIM system requirements including those related to their self-diagnostic functions have
38 been tested and verified by Westinghouse. The quality of the same CIM system design and
39 development process were assessed and inspected by the NRC staff for the AP1000 standard
40 design certification. For the Vogtle AP1000, Units 3 and 4, the same CIM system went through
41 NRC ITAAC (Inspections, Tests, Analyses, and Acceptance Criteria) inspections for its design
42 and development process and was found acceptable for the AP1000 PMS. In addition, during
43 the NRC evaluation of the Vogtle LAR 19-01 (Ref. 9), the NRC staff reviewed the QA of the
44 self-diagnostic functions for the same CIM system and found that its self-diagnostic functions
45 credited were adequately developed, tested, and verified using rigorous processes in
46 accordance with Appendix B requirements.
47

48 On the basis of the NRC staff SE report’s for the Common Q Platform and Software Program
49 Manual (Refs. 2 and 3) and the supplemental review activities of the self-diagnostic aspects for
50 Vogtle LAR 19-01, the NRC staff finds that that Common-Q and CIM/SRNC diagnostic

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- 20 -

1 functions to be credited in Section 3.3 of this SE were developed, tested, qualified, and will be
 2 maintained using rigorous processes in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50, Appendix B
 3 requirements.

4
 5 Though a licensee referencing WCAP-18461 may delegate work for establishing and executing
 6 the QA program for Common Q equipment to Westinghouse, the licensee remains responsible
 7 for the establishment and execution of the QA program in accordance with 10 CFR Part 50,
 8 Appendix B.

9
 10 3.5. Regulatory Compliance

11
 12 The methodology provided in WCAP-18461-P/NP credits system self-diagnostic functions as an
 13 alternate means of providing adequate assurance that the necessary quality of systems and
 14 components is maintained, that facility operation will be within safety limits, and that the limiting
 15 conditions for operation will be met. The NRC staff finds this methodology can be applied to
 16 eliminate surveillance requirements for components in which self-diagnostic coverage can be
 17 demonstrated. A licensee applying these methods shall perform a plant specific assessment of
 18 system diagnostics to ensure that requirements of 10 CFR 36(c) can be met upon elimination of
 19 SRs.

20
 21 WCAP-18461-P/NP addresses the acceptance criteria in BTP 7-17, which in part states that
 22 self-test functions should be verified during periodic functional tests. The LAR addresses these
 23 criteria as follows:

- 24
 25 • For a Common-Q based PMS-PPS subsystem, [

26
 27
 28
 29]a,c

- 30
 31 •[[

32
 33
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- 47
 48 • WCAP-18461 includes an action (LRA 8) that requires licensees to "...provide a
 49 description of plant administrative controls that will provide assurance (defense-in-
 50 depth) that faults are captured and investigated. This may include items such as

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- 21 -

1 operator rounds, and system engineer monthly reports that evaluate and document
2 the health, errors, and faults of the safety system.”
3

4 Therefore, based on the above evaluations of both Common-Q based and FPGA-based
5 CIM/SRNC subsystems, the NRC staff determined that the approaches described in
6 WCAP-18461 meet the criteria in BTP 7-17 for checking and monitoring the PPS self-
7 diagnostic functions during operation.
8

9 The NRC staff finds the WCAP-18461 methodologies for elimination of SRs to be consistent
10 with regulatory requirements of GDC 21 and 10 CFR 50.55a(h) applicable to reliability and
11 testability of the PPS base architecture. The NRC staff also determined that PPS automatic
12 self-diagnostic functions continuously monitor safety function logic operability and are designed
13 to alert the operator of failures. The combined PPS system and application-level automatic
14 self-diagnostic functions can be credited to provide adequate testing coverage comparable to
15 manual PPS surveillance testing. Therefore, the NRC staff finds that the PPS automatic
16 self-diagnostics functions can be used to verify the safety systems' capability to perform its
17 safety functions. These self-diagnostic functions may therefore be credited in lieu of certain
18 manual SR testing provided there is an acceptable risk profile for the design of a plant to which
19 this TR will be applied and all LRAs in WCAP-18461 and ASAs in Section 4.0 of this SE are
20 performed.
21

22 4.0 APPLICATION SPECIFIC ACTION ITEMS

23

24 ASAI 1 - The current CIM output solid-state relays are designed to only interface with
25 DC components. If the CIM system is required to interface with AC powered
26 components for a specific application, then a modified version of the current
27 CIM design with different solid-state relays capable of handling the AC loads,
28 which is still under development, needs to be used. A licensee referencing
29 this topical report should perform additional assessment of the modified CIM
30 design to make sure that the findings related to the CIM self-diagnostic
31 functions in this SE are still applicable.
32

33 ASAI 2 - For specific application cases which use CIMs in series, for interfacing with
34 components with power lock-out requirements, or with intentionally disabled
35 output tests, a licensee referencing this topical report should ensure that the
36 surveillance detect relevant failures which are not covered by the CIM output
37 test self-diagnostic functions.
38

39 ASAI 3 - A licensee referencing this topical report should perform an assessment of all
40 plant specific self-diagnostic functions to be credited for SR elimination to
41 determine if they satisfy applicable operability verification criteria.

42 ASAI 4 - When performing a comparison of application FMEA with the FMEDA tables in
43 WCAP-18461, the following actions should be performed:
44

- 45 1. Identify any failure modes that are plant specific (i.e., not identified in
46 the WCAP-18461 FMEDA tables) and perform an analysis of system
47 self-diagnostic features to determine if each failure mode is detectable
48 by an existing function or if a new plant application diagnostic function
49 is required.

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- 22 -

2. Review all application self-diagnostic functions identified in the FMEA and FMEDA tables and verify that each function is either included in the system design or is identified as a system application requirement to be developed and implemented in the system design.
3. Identify any components or subsystems in the WCAP-18461 FMEDA tables that are not being implemented in the plant design or are being implemented in the plant specific design in a manner different than described in Section 2.1, “Base Architecture,” of the WCAP-18461.
4. Each of the functions performed by these components or sub-systems should then be analyzed to determine the effects of any reduced diagnostic coverage.

6.0 CONCLUSION

The NRC staff determined that the methodology outlined in WCAP-18461 for crediting PPS self-diagnostic functions can be used to provide reasonable assurance that PPS-related LCOs are met, without reliance on performance of Channel Check, COT, ALT, and ALOT manual SRs for certain PPS components. This determination is based on the NRC staff finding that PPS self-diagnostic functions: (1) are more effective and timelier than performance of manual SRs at detecting PPS equipment faults, (2) can be adequately monitored with administrative checks, and (3) satisfy all QA regulatory requirements for their development, testing, installation, maintenance, and operation. The NRC staff determined that reliance on the PPS self-diagnostic functions support meeting the applicable PPS-related LCOs is acceptable under 10 CFR 50.36(c)(2). Therefore, the NRC staff finds that removing surveillance requirements from a plant TS in relation to PPS equipment, for which credited self-diagnostic coverage is provided, is acceptable with implementation of the application specific action items.

The NRC staff also finds the methodology for allocating response times for PPS equipment acceptable because the overall effect of any degradation in the PPS components either would not have adverse impact on the response time or would be compensated with a conservative allotted response time. Therefore, the NRC staff concludes the TR supports compliance with requirements of 10 CFR 50.55a(h) and 10 CFR 50.36(c).

7.0 REFERENCES

1. Submittal of Westinghouse, WCAP-18461-P/NP, "Common Qualified Platform Surveillance Elimination Topical Report" (ADAMS Accession No. ML20070R083).
2. Safety Evaluation for Westinghouse Topical Report “WCAP-16097-P/NP-A, Revision 4, ‘Common Qualified Platform’” (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20020A003).
3. Safety Evaluation for Westinghouse Topical Report “WCAP-16096-P/NP, Revision 5, ‘Software Program Manual for Common Q™ Systems’” (ADAMS Accession No. ML18337A335).
4. Electric Power Research Institute TR-106439, “Guideline on Evaluation and Acceptance of Commercial Grade Digital Equipment for Nuclear Safety Applications,” dated

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- 23 -

- 1 October 1996.
2 5. NRC Review of EPRI Topical Report TR-106439, "Guideline on Evaluation and
3 Acceptance of Commercial Grade Digital Equipment for Nuclear Safety Applications,"
4 dated July 17, 1997 (ADAMS Accession No. ML12205A284).
5
6 6. EPRI TR-107330, "Generic Requirements Specification for Qualifying a Commercially
7 Available PLC for Safety-Related Application in Nuclear Power Plants," dated
8 December 1996.
9
10 7. NRC Review of EPRI TR-107330 (ADAMS Legacy Accession No. 9808120281).
11
12 8. Submittal of Draft Supplemental Information Related to WCAP-18461-P and
13 WCAP-18461-NP, dated March 25, 2020 (ADAMS Package Accession
14 No. ML20090A239).
15
16 9. Vogtle Electric Generating Plant Units 3 and 4 Issuance of Amendment (LAR 19-001),
17 dated November 22, 2019 (ADAMS Accession No. ML19297C791).
18
19 Principal Contributor:
20
21 Date:

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Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
1	Page 2/ Line 32-33	Editorial	“Common Qualification (Common Q)” should be changed to: “the Common Qualified (Common Q) platform”	
2	Page 2/Line 35	Clarification	Does the term “channel operability tests” encompass response time testing?	
3	Page 3/Line 9	Editorial	“process protection system (PPS)” should be changed to: “plant protection system (PPS)”	
4	Page 4/Line 8	Clarification	AC160 Self-Diagnostics encompasses the bullets listed below this line. Therefore, recommend deleting the first bullet.	
5	Page 5/Line 8	Editorial	“Watchdog Timer (WDT)” should be changed to “WWDT”	
6	Page 5/Line 11	Editorial	“WDT” should be changed to “WWDT”	
7	Page 5/ Lines 12-13	Editorial	Suggest changing: “Appendix A of the Common Q, TR WCAP-16097, Revision 5 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20171A339) provides additional information on the watchdog timer configuration.” To: “The Common Q TR, WCAP-16097, Revision 5 (ADAMS Package Accession No. ML20171A339) provides additional information on the watchdog timer configuration.” There is no Appendix A of the Common Q TR. However, this information is in WCAP-16097, Revision 5.	

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- 25 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
8	Page 5/Lines 16-17	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: []a,c	
9	Page 5/Lines 24 – 29	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: []a,c	
10	Page 5/Lines 45 – 49 Page 6/Lines 1 – 4	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: []a,c	

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- 26 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
11	Page 5/Lines 45-46	Clarification	Why is the following statement made: [] ^{a,c} [] ^{a,c}	
12	Page 7/Lines 1 – 3	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	

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- 27 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
13	Page 7/Lines 6 – 19	Proprietary	<p data-bbox="823 334 1432 407">The following should be marked as proprietary: [</p> <p data-bbox="1362 1127 1409 1159">]a,c</p>	

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- 28 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
14	Page 7/Line 9	Clarification	[] ^{a,c}	
15	Page 7/Lines 42 – 43	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	
16	Page 8/Lines 6 – 8	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	
17	Page 8/Lines 14 – 17	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	

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- 29 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
18	Page 9/Line 50 Page 10/Line 2 Page 13/Line 22 Page 13/Line 36 Page 14/Line 10 Page 16/Line 21 Page 16/Line 30 Page 16/Line 32 Page 16/Line 36 Page 16/Line 43 Page 17/Line 38 Page 17/Line 39 Page 17/Line 44 Page 17/Line 45 Page 17/Line 49 Page 19/Line 11 Page 19/Line 21 Page 19/Line 30 Page 19/Line 31 Page 19/Line 50 Page 20/Line 25 Page 20/Line 27 Page 21/Line 4	Editorial	“Common-Q” should be changed to “Common Q”	

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- 30 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
19	Page 11/Lines 2 – 8	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	
20	Page 11/Lines 10 – 11	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	
21	Page 11/Lines 13 – 14	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	
22	Page 11/Lines 15 – 17	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: [] ^{a,c}	

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- 32 -

Comment Number	Comment Location Page/Line Number	Comment Type	Comment	NRC Response
28	Page 16/Lines 36 – 41	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: []a,c	
29	Page 20/Lines 25 – 29	Proprietary	The following should be marked as proprietary: []a,c	
30	Page 21/Line 18	Clarification	Licensees need more guidance in this SER to determine if the criteria are met for an acceptable risk profile.	

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